(b) There are on-going hostilities between the LTTE on the one hand and Sri Lankan armed forces on the other. While there are reports of casualities on both sides, the exact number is difficult to ascertain.

(c) While reaffirming commitment to the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka, Government of India has emphasized the need to make all possible efforts to strengthen the ceasefire and to revive the political dialogue in order to move the peace process forward. Government of India has also conveyed to Government of Sri Lanka that any escalation of violence will not only undermine the ceasefire but also result in civilian casualties.

Racial discrimination against Indians in U.S.

2936. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in U.S. the Non-whites particularly Indians are very often stopped and searched by police on the pretext of traffic violations and whether it is more so after the recent Mumbai blast by the terrorists; and

(b) the measures taken by Government of India to arrange for mitigation of harassment and sufferings of Indian on the one side and the discrimination on the other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Raising of Kashmir issue

2937. Shrimati. SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan continued to raise the Kashmir issue on all international forums;

(b) whether Pakistan and Indian officials met at SAARC Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka on July 31st and the issue of continuing peace talks was also discussed;

(c) if so, whether any date for continuation of foreign secretary level talks was considered;